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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

SUBJECT Soviet Order of Battle in Mecklenburg

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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DATE:

INFO. Nov. Dec. 1946

DIST. 7 February 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Rerik-Wustrow (051). End of November 1946.

- a. Neugaarz barracks have been almost completely evacuated. Strength appears to be maintained steady in the former AA barracks, despite a fairly lively turnover in personnel. A number of officers, long based at Rerik, have been transferred; some are reported to have gone to Russia, some to other parts of the Russian Zone and some to the Balkans. 25X1A

[REDACTED] Comment: Here, as at other localities in Mecklenburg, Russian personnel answered queries about their destination by replying that they were going to Russia for demobilization, to the Far East, to the Balkans, or to the Greek border.

- b. A mixed infantry regiment, with attached mortar and anti-tank units, possesses [REDACTED]. A unit [REDACTED] has not yet been identified. 25X1C 25X1C
- c. During the week of 24-30 November, allegedly new types of mortar shells were employed in training exercises. These are described as being shaped like a pineapple hand grenade and filled with phosphate. The effect of these shells is similar to that produced by phosphorus fire bombs.
- d. On 27 November, the Rostock police department was given two hours notice to supply forty-three of its men to Schwerin; from that place they were to be sent to relieve Soviet border guards.
- e. Early in November a number of parachutes were delivered to Rerik by truck. A casual informant observed twelve of these trucks with trailers. Each was estimated to contain 200 parachutes, described as the large type used by paratroops.

2. Neustrelitz (U54) to Rügen (P65). 7-12 December.

- a. Strength has greatly decreased in Neustrelitz. Important buildings and numerous dwellings have been evacuated. The armored units still

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25X1C in the town originally came from Rostock. [REDACTED] It is rumored that 3,000 new troops are expected.

- b. According to Soviet officers, numerous furloughs are now being granted, with the troop quota set at approximately 60% of strength. Such furloughs run from one and a half to two months.
- c. The Neubrandenburg (U66) garrison has been considerably weakened by troop departures. Furloughs are being granted to the same extent as described in Para. 2b above.
- d. Stralsund (P44) is occupied chiefly by transient troops. These usually proceed to Rostock and Warnemünde for shipment. Many attempts at desertion have been reported among the evacuating troops. Patrols have been reinforced and all Soviet soldiers are carefully checked. There have been some cases of rape and pillaging; the Stralsund railroad station was looted on 8 December and neither German police nor Russian MPs were able to cope with the situation. Several officers who tried to intervene were beaten.
- e. All German freighters of 2,500 to 8,500 tons, with captains and crews, were requisitioned during this period. These vessels are to go either to Bornim (sic) or Heringsdorf (L21).
- f. Rügen (P65) has lost some troops and is now sparsely occupied.
- g. According to members of the Sassnitz (P87) police and residents of Bergen (P76), rumors concerning the presence of German naval personnel, commanded by Russians, are unfounded. German sailors have not been seen on Rügen and there has been no Soviet recruiting in this line.

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[REDACTED] Comment: This is a reference to a 27 October 1946 report from a casual source on the presence of German sailors on Rügen.

- h. Source states that throughout the area of Mecklenburg covered by Paras. 2a to 2g both officers and EM have been doing their utmost to obtain civilian clothing, offering as much as 800 marks for a pair of shoes or, lacking cash, trying to make barter deals with German cigarettes.

Neuruppin area (Z49). 8-11 December.

- a. The following [REDACTED] were obtained: 25X1C

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- Rifle regiment in the See Barracks.
- Presumed to be a tank regiment in the Gildenhall area of Neuruppin.
- Tank brigade in the Altruppin Allee tank barracks.

- b. Between 8 and 11 December, troop trains coming from the direction of Neustadt (T53) delivered 800 men to the Neuruppin freight station. These men were marched to Gildenhall. On the morning of 12 December, they entrained at Wulkow (Z49). They were alleged to be invalids en route to Russia.

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- c. According to a Soviet NCO, the artillery regiment in the Friedrich-Franz barracks at Neuruppin contains 500 men, after a fusion of batteries and the elimination of ill and injured personnel. This

unit contains battery, radio and telephone sections plus ammunition and ration supply trains. Personnel undergo four hours of political instruction weekly under the political officer, Major Yuldashev. Films are not included in this course, which harps on the usual Marxist themes.

- d. A Soviet Army Special Construction Bureau in Neuruppin is headed by Major Prokoyev. This agency handles Army repairs and billeting, as well as new construction work. Almost all the skilled workers in town, numbering about 350 men, are employed by the bureau. These drafted employees must provide their own raw materials and are said to work under continual threat of imprisonment if deadlines are not met.

- e. Wittstock airport (U11) contains about 400 aircraft, half of them described as two-engine models with double rudder controls and half are single-engine fighters. Clearance of the field is being undertaken by approximately 2,000 members of a Soviet punishment unit. German workers are rebuilding the hangars.

Rostock (081). 14-15 December.

- a. During 14 and 15 December, approximately 110 T-34 tanks were observed moving eastward in columns of thirty to forty. During their halt in Rostock, it was learned that these tanks originally came from Malchin (U38), had proceeded in roundabout fashion to Warnemünde, then reversed their direction and were en route, apparently, to East Prussia.
- b. According to a casual source, one Soviet officer remarked before his departure that units evacuating the area represented the future occupation troops of Upper Silesia.

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